

## Message Text

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11  
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

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R 280825Z JUN 74  
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2034

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR CGEN SO UR  
SUBJECT: SIAD COMMENTS ON RECENT EXPULSION ORDERS AGAINST  
AMERICANS

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT SIAD TOLD ME JUNE 24 THAT EXPULSION ORDER

AGAINST VOA CORRESPONDENT WILLIAMS WAS DUETO BELIEF HE WAS CIA  
AGENT AND THAT CONOCO MANAGER RAMSDELL HAD BEEN EXPELLED  
BECAUSE OF ILLEGAL CONTRACT WITH SOMALI MILITARY OFFICER. END

SUMMARY.

2. DURING MY JUNE 24 CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT SIAD, I NOTED  
THAT EXPULSION ORDERS HAD BEEN ISSUED AGAINST FOUR AMERICANS  
WITHIN ONE WEEK IN JUNE. I SAID THIS HAD RAISED QUESTIONS  
ABOUT GSDR ATTITUDE TOWARD US.

3. SIAD SAID WE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT REACT TOO FAST OR LET SUCH  
MATTERS SPOIL OUR RELATIONS. QUESTION OF US JOURNALIST HAD COME  
TO HIM FOR DECISION. (HE WAS OBVIOUSLY REFERRING TO DAVID WILLIAMS  
CASE - MOGADISCIO 841.) HE WAS TOLD THIS JOURNALIST WAS CIA  
AGENT BUT HE HAD RESPONDED THAT "THERE ARE PLENTY OF CIA AGENTS  
IN SOMALIA AND ONE MORE WILL NOT RPT NOT HURT". I DEMURRED AT  
THIS RATIONALE. I SAID I WELCOMED REVERSAL OF EXPULSION  
ORDER BUT ORIGINAL ACTION OFTEN MADE GREATER IMPRESSION THAN ITS  
REVERSAL.

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4. I THEN BROUGHT UP EXPULSION OF RAMSDELL, STATING THAT I HAD BEEN TOLD THIS WAS ACTION AGAINST HIM AS INDIVIDUAL. I ASKED IF SIAD STILL TOOK FAVORABLE VIEW OF CONOCO OPERATIONS. SIAD SAID REASON FOR RAMSDELL EXPULSION WAS THAT HE HAD HAD ILLEGAL "CONTRACT" WITH SOMALI MILITARY OFFICER. OFFICER HAD NOW RPT NOW BEEN PUT IN JAIL. RAMSDELL HAD BEEN TOLD WHEN HE FIRST CAME NOT TO "CORRUPT" SOMALIS AND INDEED TO REPORT TO AUTHORITIES ANY ATTEMPT BY SOMALIS TO GET "BAKSHISH" FROM COMPANY. SOME HAD ASSERTED RAMSDELL HAD ESTABLISHED THIS ILLEGAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ARMY OFFICER ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM EMBASSY, BUT SIAD FELT THIS NOT RPT NOT TO BE THE CASE. I CONFIRMEDXTHIS.

5. SUBSEQUENT CHECK WITH ACTING CONOCO MANAGER REVEALED THAT RAMSDELL HIRED ARMY MAJOR HASSAN LAST AUGUST AS CONSULTANT ON IN-COUNTRY COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS AT FIVE HUNDRED SHILLINGS PER MONTH. CONTRARY TO COMPANY'S NORMAL PRACTICE, HASSAN'S EMPLOYMENT HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN CLEARED WITH HIS MINISTRY. HASSAN HAD BEEN ARRESTED JUNE 16 AND NATIONAL SECURITY SERVICE HAD TALKED WITH CONOCO PERSONNEL THREE TIMES SINCE THAT DATE TO ASCERTAIN NATURE OF HASSAN'S ACTIVITIES. THEIR APPROACH HAD BEEN ONE OF SEEKING COOPERATION IN THEIR INVESTIGATION, NOT RPT NOT OF LEVELING ACCUSATIONS AGAINST CONOCO PERSONNEL.

6. CONOCO ACTING MANAGER DOUBTS THAT HASSAN RELATIONSHIP WAS IN FACT REASON FOR RAMSDELL EXPULSION (AND THIS IS OF COURSE FIRST TIME SOMALIS HAVE MENTIONED THIS TO US). HE NOTES THAT HASSAN ARREST CAME TWO WEEKS AFTER RAMSDELL EXPULSION AND DOUBTS (AS WE DO) THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SO LONG DELAYED IF HASSAN CONTRACT WAS REASON FOR ACTION AGAINST RAMSDELL. CONOCO UNDERSTANDS PRESIDENT SIAD HASDBRDERED INVESTIGATION OF BACKGROUND OF RAMSDELL EXPULSION AND SPECULATES THAT HASSAN RELATIONSHIP MAY HAVE BEEN DREDGED UP BY SECURITY SERVICE AS WAY TO JUSTIFY THEIR ARBITRARY ACTION.

7. COMMENT: WE TEND AGREE WITH CONOCO SPECULATION, THOUGH PICTURE BY NO MEANS CLEAR. WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT SIAD HAS ORDERED INVESTIGATION AND HOPE THIS WILL DETER SECURITY AUTHORITIES FROM TAKING SUCH ACTION IN FUTURE WITHOUT FULLY CHECKING IT OUT.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPULSION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** WorrelSW  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, CGEN, SO, UR, US, VOA, (WILLIAMS, DAVID)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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